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Mississippi LIBRARY NEWS



JACKSON MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

Mississippi Library News

JUNE, 1955

Volume 19

Number 2

Issued Quarterly
By

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY
COMMISSION

AND

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY
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On the Cover

The beautiful new Jackson Municipal
Library Building on North State Street.

Who?

Librarians, Trustees,
Friends of Libraries

Who Else?

Marguerite Henry, Author
of Children's Books

John S. Richards, ALA
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Carmel Kuebel, Director
Library for the Blind,
New Orleans Public Library

Frances Cheney, Library
School, Peabody College

Kate McAlpin Crady,
Writer and Speaker

J. D. Rankin, Service for
Blind, Welfare Dept.

What?

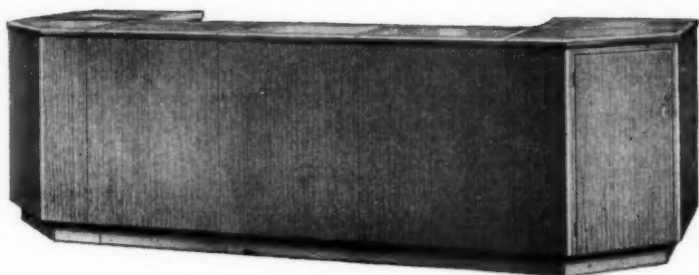
Mississippi Library Association
Meeting

Where?

Hotel Buena Vista
Biloxi

When?

October 20, 21, 22



FRONT VIEW NO. L-100 CHARGING DESK

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by Southern Desk Company

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Rear view

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SOUTHERN DESK COMPANY

• HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA

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After all, we asked for it—and we really got it! Criticisms of the March issue of *Library News*, that is.

In spite of the slightly confused and inadequate feeling we are left with, we are grateful to those of you who took the time to let us know your thoughts and opinions.

Never has the notion that some people like apples and others like onions been more evident than in the criticisms we have received.

The matter of bleeding photographs brought forth many and varied comments, to wit:

"No!" "Yes, very much." "I don't particularly like them, but I don't get emotional about their use." "On the cover, yes, but not inside." "???"

Some folk like color and some don't—at least as far as MLC covers are concerned. Opinions among the color fanciers are about evenly divided as to whether the same color should be used for a year's issues or a different color for each issue. One standard color should be adopted, say some, so that MLN will be easily recognized. Others would like a different color for each month, such as green for March, blue for June, etc. The more conservative prefer no color, only a heavier cover. The middle-of-the-readers suggest color, if headache colors are not used. Then there are the budget-conscious ones who think that it doesn't really matter, especially if colored covers are more expensive than white ones.

Comments on whether MLN pages should be 1-column, 2-column, or a combination of both indicate that almost everyone prefers something other than a straight 1-column arrangement. Some would be happy with the pure, undefiled 2-column arrangement throughout the issue. Most commenters would like the combination, if used discreetly, to give variety to the pages.

Where and how to use various sizes of type is one of those things which shouldn't happen to a green, unsuspecting editor, who hardly knows the difference between FLASH and SANS SERIF LINED. Nor have the following comments cleared up the situation:

"Don't use every type size the printer has." "You need more variety in size type." "Type in the major headings is too large." "You need more large type for headings." "Could all type be a little larger?" "The MEMPHIS and TEXT types don't blend well." "I like the sizes and styles of type used in the March issue." "The 'Mississippi' on the front cover looks as though it didn't have any breakfast."

To Dewey, or not to Dewey, that is the question! Reactions to the use of the Dewey Deciman numbers to indicate departments in the March issue of MLN have been violent for the most part, and from one extreme to the other. Things like: "No!" "Unnecessary and confusing." "Most original idea in MLN." "Yes, by all means, use Dewey numbers." "Yes, and I would like them more if I knew what they meant. For the past 15 years, I have been using LC numbers, and I will not learn the D.C. numbers again." "They look like speedometer readings." "A very clever idea, but they need headings also." "Eye-catching but immaterial to the attractiveness of MLN." "I like them a lot, but they aren't in shelf list order, you know." "They mean nothing to me." "I was curious as to what license plate numbers were doing in a library publication."

It is almost unanimously agreed that advertisements would distract the reader less if they were all placed together on back pages of each issue. It is also almost unanimously agreed that since the advertisers support the publication, we must scatter advertisements so that they will be read.

In the 818 miscellany classification—there goes Dewey again—comments went something like this, not necessarily quoted directly:

Finish an article and don't continue it in another part of the issue. Continue the column of Mississippi materials. Use more photographs of libraries. The *Alabama Librarian* is a little slicker and makes a nicer showing. The main adverse criticism is yours—overcrowding. I like an index. I do not like MLN between items. I would personally like to know more about what the Negro libraries and librarians are doing. The general layout and format are good. More photographs of persons would add interest. I think that someday, when people will do it, there should be some articles as well as news.

Thanks again to all of you for your helpful comments on the March issue of MLN. They are appreciated and will be used as a basis for future changes and improvements. Let this be an earnest request for your further suggestions on future issues. Your help is needed to make MLN a real publication.

CALLING ALL CONGRESSMEN

Excerpts from the Mississippi Library Association's statement to Congressman Frank Smith prior to his appearance as a witness for the Library Services Act include:

"... Seven years ago this Association, working in close cooperation with the Mississippi Library Commission, the State Department of Education and the University of Mississippi, worked out a sound plan for economical practical library development throughout the state at the local level. Since that time, at every level, we have been working as an Association and as individual librarians to implement that plan. This Library Services Act would accelerate that which is already more than an idea on paper—it is a moving program.

"We are aware of the terminal point of this legislation and pledge ourselves to build soundly so that what we achieve under its provisions will have lasting results. We will use it to build stronger libraries where there are weak ones and make it possible for our present strong libraries to extend their services to the million people in Mississippi without books to read.

"When we ask you to support this bill we pledge ourselves to a wise and frugal use of its funds. We have much practice in stretching funds and getting the most out of the all-too-scarce library dollar . . ."

"... we know wherein we have fallen down on our local responsibility and we are determined to work even harder to see that we do our part. We are not very proud of our position at the bottom of the educational ladder but we have the energy and the will to climb up; this Library Services Act will be a helpful and vital push."

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES NAMED

President Berry announces the following committee chairmen to serve the Association in making plans for the annual meet to be held at the Buena Vista in Biloxi, October 20, 21, 22:

Exhibits—Beth Love, Keesler Field Air Base

Hospitality—Mrs. Mary Henley, Trustee, Biloxi Public Library

Local Arrangements—Maria Persons, Gulfport

Publicity—Kay Cooley, Library Commission

Program—Mary Joan Finger, Clarksdale

Other Chairmen Named

In addition to the Conference Committees, these chairmen have been named to serve on general association assignments: Standards and Planning, Lura Currier, Library Commission; Recruiting, Margaret Nation, State College; Federal Relations, Eunice Eley, Library Commission; Membership, Alberta Edmondson, Jackson Public Schools.

President Berry announces the appointment of two important committee chairmanships. Sykes Hartin, Director of Libraries, University of Mississippi, will serve as head of the Nominating Committee. Gertrude Rowzee, librarian at Hinds Junior College, will be chairman of the Awards Committee. Both these committees will have significant reports to make at the annual conference scheduled for October 20-22 at Hotel Buena Vista, Biloxi.

MLA MEETING MENU

Hotel Buena Vista — Biloxi

October 20 - 22

APPETIZER

Statewide workshop for public librarians

SALAD

Mixer meeting with Kate McAlpin Crady and convention exhibitors on program.

ENTREE

Dinner meeting, starring Marguerite Henry, Author of children's books

VEGETABLES (Choice of one)

Public library section — John S. Richards, guest

College library section — Frances Cheney, guest

School and children's library section — with Marguerite Henry

Trustee section (Friday P. M.) — John S. Richards, speaker

DESSERT

Luncheon meeting — John S. Richards, Seattle Public Library, and ALA president-elect, speaker

BEVERAGES

Library service for the blind, featuring Carmel Kuebel, Director Library for the Blind, New Orleans Public Library, and J. D. Rankin, Director Division of Work for the Blind, Department of Public Welfare

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Editors of MLN really were at a loss whether to put this under *Classified* or *Beyond the Call of Duty*. Writes Maria Person, Gulfport librarian and Chairman of Local Arrangements (when Maria leaves the Coast—if ever—MLA will not be able to meet there any more because she and local arrangements on the Coast just belong together; sometimes the Executive Committee worries about the heavy load this puts on the Coast librarians alternating years, but they never worry enough to quit going. Anyway, that's the Coast Librarians' fault—they shouldn't do such a grand job of making the Association happy and smooth running): "I wish people would let me know if there is anything I can do to help plan their leisure time." Now there you are! If you don't have a good time, as well as a good conference, while you are in Biloxi it isn't because you didn't have the volunteer services of an expert guide. And we know. Maria and staff know the best places to eat, to fish, to read out under a tree, loll in the sand, and . . . well, they know the Coast. And we know that Maria really meant it. Let her know!

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

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INTRODUCING THE COMMISSION STAFF, NEW AND REVISED

Mrs. Lura G. Currier, Director
Mrs. Eunice Eley, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. C. C. Clark, Supervisor of Group Services
Martha Cauty, Cataloger, Reference and Order Librarian
Mrs. Kay Cooley, Public Library Consultant
Mrs. Lucy M. Alston, Circulation Supervisor
Mrs. Elizabeth Long, Secretary-Bookkeeper
Mrs. Brigitte Kenney, General Clerical Assistant
Mrs. Leatrice Pridgen, Circulation Clerk
Jean Gunter, Welfare Department Librarian
Lelia Harper, Bookmobile Driver and Clerk
George Fox, Mail Clerk
Nell Timmes, Cataloging Clerical Assistant (Temporary)

??

COMMISSION'S NEW
FIELD WORKER

WATCH THIS SPACE



Mattie Milner

There Goes the Bride!

Mattie Milner, Extension Librarian for the Library Commission, left the staff on June 17. She was married to Robert Bedwell of Jackson on June 22, in the Capitol Street Methodist Church.

Mattie will be greatly missed at the Commission and at the various stops along the Bookmobile routes.

Best wishes to Mattie and Robert, who will make their home in Houston, Texas, where both will be associated with the Houston schools.



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MLC's newest staff member is Mrs. Lucy M. Alston, Circulation Supervisor. Lucy hails from Hattiesburg, where she was active in church, civic and club activities. She is a state honorary member of Delta Kappa Gamma and a "contributing" member of P.T.A.

She has served as president of the Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers and as chairman of high school service for the National Congress. At present she is secretary of the National Congress.

A son, a daughter, and three grandchildren complete the Alston family.

The new bookkeeper and secretary to the administrative offices of the Library Commission is Mrs. Elizabeth Ferrell Long. Native of Clarke, Elizabeth is a graduate of Central High School in Jackson and of Draughon's Business College. To this responsible position she brings experience in legal work and department store secretary, together with considerable dignity, poise, and charm.

Mrs. Brigitte Kenney of Forest joined the Commission Staff in the late Spring as a general clerical assistant.

Brigitte was born and reared in Germany, where she received a generous amount of schooling, which is hard to classify academically in the U.S.A. She worked in Germany as secretary of the Command Librarian of the European Command.

In 1948, Brigitte came to the U.S. Before coming to MLC, she worked in the Tombigbee Regional Library at West Point.

Brigitte is married to Higdon Kenney, Band Director in the Forest schools. They have a six-year-old daughter Veronica.

Lura Currier and Martha Couty were present at the Library Binding Institute in Memphis on May 5. Lura participated on the program.

Peggy Maddox, typist for the Cataloging Department, has accepted a position in the Dietics Department of the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson. Peggy is a Home Ec major.

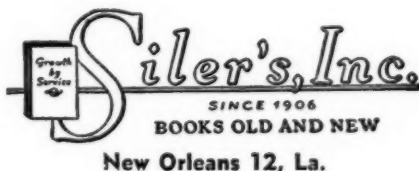
Lura Currier and Kay Cooley attended the Industrial Editors' conference at Ole Miss on May 27-28.

The summer replacement in the cataloging department is Nell Timmes, formerly of Merigold, and now of Jackson. Nell is a graduate of Delta State College and was employed as a sixth grade teacher in Jackson last session. In September, she will join the staff of elementary school librarians in the Jackson schools.

Lucy Alston represented the Commission at the First Louisiana Educational Television Workshop in Baton Rouge June 1-3.

MLN has gone political—at least in the page proofs of the March issue.

In the WHO? WHAT? WHERE? WHEN? box on the inside of the front cover, the page proofs carried an ad for one of Mississippi's gubernatorial candidates instead of the MLA data intended. More than that, a helpful printer had answered all the questions with information about the candidate's next speech.



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Meridian Public Library, Meridian

Jeanne Broach is certainly enthusiastic about their new children's room which opened in mid-June—and well she might be. Called the **TREASURE ROOM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS**, with blond equipment and a green color scheme, and equipped with many exciting things, it sounds wonderful. Mrs. Jacqueline Hines, M.S.C.W., 1955, is the children's librarian.

More than 1000 books were checked out from Meridian's new children's room during the first three days it was open.

An inter-communication system, connecting all departments of the library, has recently been installed. Not only will the staff be saved a lot of walking, but the new inter-com should save time and make for more efficiency.

It pleased Jeanne Broach immensely that she, as the public librarian, was thought of as the logical person to introduce the film program on freedom to read presented by the Meridian Public Schools on one of their weekly TV programs.

The children's summer reading program carries out the idea of the treasure chest. In addition to pirate pins which the children get for reading 15 books, they will also receive plastic charms from the treasure chest for each 3 books read. "For the first three days we registered 160 children," report Jeanne. "I suspect there will be as many as last year—470—but last year surprised us so much that we are ready for even more this year."

Winston County Library, Louisville

The principal activity of the library at present, writes Mrs. Ruby F. McGraw, is taking care of the decided increase in circulation and looking after the many children who are coming to the library.

Harriette Person Memorial Library, Port Gibson

Gretchen Guthrie has this to say: "We at Harriette Person Memorial were delighted to learn that Mattie Milner's last visit on the Bookmobile was to be during Career Emphasis Week in the Port Gibson High School. Arrangements were made to have the girls who are especially interested in being librarians come to the library, where they were shown the Bookmobile and had a brief but rewarding conference with Mattie, whose rare charm and wise counsel made them more enthusiastic than ever. We feel that she will never know how much she meant to them."

Tombigbee Regional Library, West Point

Lucile Miller believes in going all out for library service in her region. The latest addition to unique services performed by the bookmobile is reported by Mrs. Robert Bullen, Bookmobile Librarian, who commutes from State College. At a stop called "Miss Mollie Jones' Neighborhood," Miss Mollie was worried about the purity of the water from her well. Mrs. Bullen offered to take a sample of the water to State College for analysis. Miss Mollie was pleased when the librarian brought her a report from State College, saying that all was well with the well water.

To invite the boys and girls in the Wren community to participate in the library's summer program, 125 letters were sent from headquarters. Mrs. H. E. Wamble, Wren Librarian, had told the children before school was out that they would receive letters. There was great excitement in Wren. One little girl looked forward to getting her letter with such eager anticipation that she would not go with her Mother on a day's trip because "My letter might come today."

A beautiful round table for the small fry has arrived from Remington Rand and occupies the central spot in the Lucy Evans Heard Children's Room at the West Point Library. The table was given as a memorial to Mary Virginia Evans Heard, mother of Miss Lucy Heard, West Point Librarian for 33 years, by her five daughters.

First Regional Library, Hernando

Clarence the Second is now officially a part of the First Regional Library. Clarence is a new Ford station-wagon recently purchased to replace the Chevrolet carryall used to carry books to the branches.

The library is busy preparing summer story hour programs, hoping to interest more children in reading. A 2-hour picture book workshop was held at a recent staff meeting.

Mr. Hope Sullivan of DeSoto County has purchased a large residence on the northwest corner of the courthouse square for the DeSoto County Library and the Amma Gray Horn Branch in Hernando.

Mrs. J. J. Gannaway, Jr. has been working hard getting the rural communities in DeSoto County ready for the summer story hour. A leader in each community has been appointed to coordinate the activities of the community with the Bookmobile stops. Beanie caps will be given as prizes to the children reading the most books.

A Citizens' Library Movement workshop, to be put on by the University of Mississippi Extension Department, is in the very preliminary planning stages.

Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale

Anona Jenkins declares, "Now we are actually looking forward to the hot summer months ahead!" The library is now completely air-conditioned throughout.

The Bookworm Reading Club, which started on June 1, is going over with a bang. The game of Bookworm of Authors is being used as an incentive to finish the club. As usual, the library staff will give a party at the library for all of the members of the reading club in the last week in August.

The library has a new Hi-Fi record player with outlets for four earphones. Anona hopes that there will be enough records on hand to begin operating this service in the fall. A "revolutionary" plan for using the record player during July, August and September (without sufficient recordings) will be reported in the September issue of MLN—if it works.

From Janice Kee to Anona Jenkins about the library's annual arts and crafts show: "I hope you will not object if we use it as a demonstration of how attractive a small town public relations program can be."

INCREASE CIRCULATION at less cost

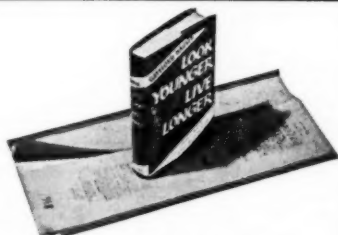
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Capital Area Regional Library, Raymond

All sorts of projects, expansions and improvements are in the budding stage at Capital Area. Director Manie Berry says that she hopes they will be in full bloom for reporting in the next issue of MLN.

Capital Area Region is unhappy to announce that Manie Berry will no longer be with them after August 1. Manie will be leaving for "back home" in Tupelo on that date. Lee County Library, Tupelo, is much pleased that Manie will be on their staff as Readers' Advisor.

A daughter, named Laurie, was born to Thelma and Hugh Brent on June 4. Hugh is Capital Area's Bookmobile Driver. The Brents have three boys.

Mrs. Maggie Blackburn of the Mendenhall Branch Library, who has been ill for some time, is back at work.

Manie Berry looked from her desk to see a little boy waiting to speak to her. This is what he had to say:

"I have come to apply for a job. Do you have anything that I could do? I am 9½ years, and will work real hard."

The youngster's written application is on file in the office, awaiting the day when there is a vacancy for a fellow with his qualifications.

Canton Public Library, Canton

There's no dearth of activity in Canton, according to Mrs. John B. Robinson, Librarian.

Real cool is the word for the library since the air-conditioning unit has been installed. Mrs. Robinson also acknowledges the receipt of gifts of 159 memorial books, a section of blond shelving and a lovely blond table.

Two types of book service for shut-ins have been added to present activities—books for shut-ins at home and a hospital service. The Canton Garden Club supplied a book truck for the hospital service.

Each week four magazines are available to anyone asking for them at the library. These magazines are donated to the library for distribution.

Other recent library activities include book reviews by the librarian, numerous visits by school classes to the library, club meetings in the library and book loans to schools.

Copiah County Library, Hazlehurst

A triple-threat summer reading program is off to a fine start at Covington Memorial Library in Hazlehurst.

Pre-school children meet at the library on the first and third Thursdays of each month for their "reading" time.

The Big Top Reading Club, for children from 7 through 9, meets on alternate Thursdays too.

For the older group, there is the Bookworm Authors Club. Members of the club, in addition to their scheduled meetings, may come to the library at any time to play the game.

The big day for youngsters participating in the club took place on July 1, with a parade, party, and much fun and merriment for all.

Lee County Library, Tupelo

"The old order changeth, yielding place to the new" at Lee County Library, reports Elizabeth Holcomb. Emotions are mingled, sadness and happiness. There are genuine regrets that Mrs. Jeannine Eaton left with her husband, Henry, to make her home in Memphis. Henry will study radiology at the Methodist Hospital; Jeannine is with the circulation department at the new Memphis Public Library. There is great rejoicing that Manie Berry had a yen to come home, making it possible for Lee County Library to secure her as Readers' Advisor. Manie is a girlhood friend of Librarian Elizabeth Holcomb and a roommate during library schooling at the University of Illinois.

A successful summer reading program is well underway in Lee County. Its success is due, perhaps, to recommendations of teachers at the end of school, to participation in a P.T.A. panel discussion on "What Our Youth is Offered During the Summer," and the launching of a definite program by the Main Library, the East Tupelo Branch, the Strange Negro Branch, and the Bookmobile.

Summer months mean "typewriter cramp" as intensive work on the card catalog seeks to make it complete. It is planned that by September every book in the library, including old books, will be cataloged. This will be a "first time" for Lee County Library.

Vicksburg Public Library

Quoting Mary Sherard: "The most exciting thing we have done has been to have Louis Cochran on our radio program called "The Bookshelf." He talked about the book which he is going to write on Vicksburg and about his latest book *Hallelujah, Mississippi*."

Hordes of termites have been the innocent cause for some much-needed decorating. The walls in the work room and in the two rest rooms have been renovated and painted pink.

Mary has started a weekly feature in the Sunday edition of the Vicksburg Post Herald, called "News of Books and Activities at the Vicksburg Public Library." The column will include book reviews and informal notes about happenings in the library.

The Library Board has an early meeting scheduled to go over the bids for the branch library for Negroes.

The Vicksburg Public Library is interested in exchanging radio scripts with other libraries. If you are interested, let Mary Sherard know.

Gulfport Carnegie-Harrison County Library, Gulfport

Quoted from a letter from Maria Persson:

"We've been in a whirl getting the reading club under way and the first story hour behind us. Anyway, it looks as if we are in for the best summer yet. Things are running very smoothly in the Children's Department. We have the Reading Round Up theme again this year—we used it once five years ago. Elaborate corrals in sawdust, a ranch house, are really artistic. Somehow it all ties in nicely with the David Crockett craze."

Maria enjoyed a week's trip to Virginia, taking in a few of the historic spots. While there, she attended graduation exercises at Virginia Military Institute.

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Northeast Regional Library, Corinth

The Corinth Centennial Board voted to give \$1,200.00 out of the profits made during the centennial celebration last May to Alcorn County Library Board to establish and maintain a local museum. The library board voted to match this amount. A room in the library has been redecorated and set aside for this purpose.

To be called the Corinth Historical Museum, this room will serve the dual purpose of a museum and a meeting room with a seating capacity of 50. Four show cases have been purchased. A projector is to be added. There will also be a copy of the film "Shiloh—The Story of A Battle." Materials and relics symbolic of the history of Corinth will be located in this room.

Mr. Ira Lykes, Superintendent of the Shiloh National Park and Mr. Pete Shedd, Historian of the Shiloh National Park, are consultants of the project.

Plans are to open the museum during June, which is hospitality month in Mississippi. Dr. W. D. McCain, formerly Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and newly-appointed President of Mississippi Southern College, is to be the featured speaker.

Northeast Regional Library had a wedding and a new addition during the month of May. Mrs. Dorothy Haynie, Bookmobile Librarian, and her former husband were remarried the first week in May. Ann and Linton Rhodes have a young daughter. Since both parents have been members of the staff, we are hoping that the young lady will be a prospective librarian. Linton is still on the staff as Bookmobile Driver, but Ann has resigned.

Holmes County Library, Durant

Registration for the first annual Spring Festival in Durant was held in the Holmes County Library on Sunday afternoon, April 17. The festival has been declared a huge success by representatives of the various community clubs that sponsored the event, and already plans are under way for next year's hospitality day.

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Evans Memorial Library, Aberdeen

Lucille Peacock by-lined an article in the Spring, 1955, issue of *Manuscripts*, publication of The Manuscript Society. Entitled "A Small Library Really Lives—Past and Present," it is the remarkable story of how a small town library is preserving local documents and history. MLN hopes to quote this article in part if permission from the copyright owner is granted.

The air waves throughout Monroe County carried on Saturday, June 4, over the Read-A-Book radio program the eager voices of a boy and a girl, leaders of last summer's vacation reading plan. Their boosting of such preceded the beginning of such plans for 1955.

The Twentieth Century Club of Aberdeen felt that its new members should know more about its friend, the Evans Memorial Library. Hence, its final meeting of the year was held in the library—in the Children's Room. In the midst of fairy stories, poetry, travel and biography, the new club officers were installed and pledged keen support for the club's outstanding work, child welfare.

So outstanding has the publicity program of Evans Memorial Library been that professional associates have urged Lucille Peacock to submit her scrapbook for the John Dana Cotton award.

This is the library's summer invitation, one line of which was the "inspiration" of young Bill—a fifth grader!

"When you're hot and tired and out of commission

Come read a book where it's air-conditioned."

And it is proving effective!

William Alexander Percy Memorial Library, Greenville

Lucy Crittenden, Librarian, writes that they have just finished remodeling and redecorating a historical room, to be called the Mississippi Room. Books and other materials by Mississippi authors or about Mississippi will be shelved in the room.

Opening the library for two hours on Sunday afternoons has brought enthusiastic response. The number of patrons who take advantage of this added service is steadily increasing.

Earline Brister, 1955 graduate of MSCW with a major in library science, joined the staff as assistant librarian on June 15.

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY NEWS

Your Library Plan needs **RULING PEN...MORTAR...AND T.L.C.***



Wilmette Public Library, Wilmette, Illinois

IT TAKES ruling pen and mortar to design and build a library. But, to make it *live* as an exciting land of reading adventure the *plan* must be generously sprinkled with **TLC.**

This Wilmette Public Library children's room, as well as the adult areas, received just such devoted personal care from Remington Rand's Library Bureau, in cooperation with the librarian and architect. Details were planned to encourage greater adventures in the world of books. Miss Helen Siniff, librarian, says with pride, "Our library is attractive and inviting. I think this accounts in large measure for our high circulation."

Quality LB products, 75 years of unmatched experience in library planning, and the personal service of an LB specialist are available to you.

FREE handbook "Planning The Public Library," LB643 Rev. 1, has ideas you can use. If you earnestly plan for a living library in your community, write us now.

*The physician's age-old child care prescription—**Tender Loving Care.**



Remington Rand

1711 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans 13, La.
 341 Madison Ave., Memphis 3, Tenn.
 2216 Fifth Ave. N., Birmingham 3, Ala.



Zaidee Neild Honored

One of our school librarians made news on May 5. Miss Zaidee Neild, Librarian, Vicksburg Public Schools, was honored by the Vicksburg Education Association and Carr Central High School Parent Teachers Association at a reception in the Coral Room of Hotel Vicksburg. Miss Neild is retiring this year after over fifty years of service.

For the occasion, Miss Neild wore a navy crepe evening gown with a white lace yoke. Her corsage was an exquisite orchid.

Just outside the Coral Room was the guest book, where all were asked to sign. On the table holding the book was an attractive arrangement of pink carnations, in the center of which was "50" in silver letters.

Decorations for the event were done in silver, pink and green. At each end of the room stood a large basket of white gladioli. Silver candelabra, decorated in pink, were used on the serving tables.

At the reception, Miss Neild was presented with a silver and crystal lemon dish and fork by the Vicksburg Education Association. She also received many other gifts, flowers, and telegrams. At a faculty meeting the day before the reception, the Carr Central faculty and staff presented her with a watch.

Library Club Entertains

On April 5, the NEW ALBANY School Library entertained the library clubs of Union County with a recreational program in the high school library. Games and contests were enjoyed. Refreshments were served from a gaily decorated table. The MYRTLE High School Club extended an invitation for the meeting next Fall.

Assistants' Meetings

Another day that will be remembered was the meeting of the Delta Library Assistants' Club at GREENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL on March 6.

Under the direction of Mrs. Caroline Badow, Greenville High School Librarian, and with Stephen Clark of West Tallahatchie High School as master of ceremonies, the group heard talks by Principal H. W. Solomon, Mrs. Anne K. Stokes, Mrs. Louise Eskridge Crump, and Annabelle Koonce.

Patsy Sheily of Clarksdale, President of the club, read a paper by Alfred Stone of the Mississippi Historical Society. Mr. Solomon spoke on the physical aspects of a book, and Mrs. Stokes discussed poetry in the life of a child.

Authors present, in addition to Mrs. Crump, were Ben Wasson and Shelby Foote, who brought greetings to the future librarians.

Annabelle Koonce outlined the meaning and importance of organization to a good library.

Mrs. Crump's subject was "The Keys to a Kingdom." Librarians must lure children to the world of good books, emphasized Mrs. Crump, and "set their feet squarely on the road from Peter Rabbit on an English hillside to the great literature of England throughout the ages, and from George Washington and the cherry tree, to the broad fields of American literature."

Mrs. Crump reminded the future librarians that they will "soon hold these keys for many, and unless you plan to treasure them and use them wisely, lay them down . . . but if you plan to go forward in the company of those who have done so much to mold the great men of all ages, then yours is a noble profession."

Student assistants present represented schools at Greenville, Merigold, Cleveland, Delta State, Clarksdale, Marks, Doddsville, Shelby, Leland, West Tallahatchie, Lambert, and Indianola. More than 150 students attended. Shelby High School will be host to the group next Fall.

Librarians and student assistants of Region VIII held their Spring meeting on March 12, with CENTER HIGH SCHOOL in Union County as host.

After registration, the meeting opened with a welcome address by J. H. Watson, regional president. The Myrtle Library Club entertained the group with music, and the Center Club gave a skit. A panel made up of members from the various clubs discussed "Display and Poster Making." That book mending can be fun was demonstrated by the Center Library Club. After a talk by Mrs. Newt L. Ivy on "Librarianship as a Career," librarians and students met in separate groups for a short business session.

Jean Hines of Center High was elected president for next year. The invitation extended by Ashland High School for the meeting next Fall was accepted.

Following a tour of the school, a delicious salad plate was served in the Homemaking Building.

Student Library Assistants of Mississippi will hold their annual meeting in JACKSON on Saturday, November 12. Many schools are making library activity scrapbooks to submit for the Dana award.

Newspaper Center

Mrs. Pearle Kemp, S. D. LEE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, Columbus, reports that one of her best innovations this year has been her newspaper center. Papers were taken off the sticks and placed on a table on a small platform at one end of the library. Students were free to sit there and read the papers whenever they could find an empty chair.

There has also been very lively interest around the reference shelves where

English classes were preparing short bibliographies. They learned to look for information in books other than encyclopedias.

Workshop

The library workshop offered by Mississippi Southern College in cooperation with the State Department of Education will be held July 25-29. Miss Sybil Baird of Indian Springs School in Alabama will be the consultant. Topic for the week's work will be reading guidance. Credit will be given. For details and reservations, write to Miss Anna Roberts, Librarian, Mississippi Southern College, Hattiesburg.

Here and There

The new librarian at Clarksdale High School next session will be JOSEPHINE FRAZER.

DAUPHINE JONES, formerly of Brandon High School, will be assistant librarian at Hinds Junior College.

A junior High school library is being organized in Clarksdale. MRS. NORA GRESHAM, formerly of Belzoni High School, will be librarian.

MARY JO FINGER has left Clarksdale High School to begin work on July 1 as librarian of Scarritt College, Nashville, Tennessee.

Brandon High School will have a new librarian next Fall — MRS. DAN KNIGHT, Jr., who recently worked at the Charleston High School.

ALBERTA EDMONDSON, Field Librarian for the Jackson Public Schools, is planning a trip to the East and to Canada this summer.

MRS. FRANCES LORD of Basin High School is to be the Lucedale High School librarian next Fall.

Magee High School's new librarian is MRS. SYBIL STEEL, recently of the New Hebron High School.

Delta State College

Special exhibits for the Southern Literary Festival, April 22, featured Mississippi authors, Southern authors, Delta State authors, and Festival guest speakers. Visitors from Mississippi and nine other states signed the library's guest register.

Miss Elizabeth Dakin, Miss Mabel Brister and Miss Eleanor Harkins attended the Delta Student Assistant's Library Club meeting at Greenville, March 4, and also the National Library Binding Institute at Memphis, May 5.

Miss Eleanor Harkins gave a book review at the Woman's Club, Ruleville, March 17.

Gifts received recently are Huxley's "Science, liberty and peace" from James Seawright of Greenwood, "Strictly personal" from the author, Leroy B. Allen; "Delta Decameron" from the co-editor, Evelyn Allen Hammett.

"Reading Reminders," January bulletin board arranged by student assistants Miss Pattie Sue Travis of Rosedale and Miss Jonett Sanford of Marks, was pictured in the Commercial Appeal of March 22. Will Cuppy's "How to get from January to December," furnished the motif.

Miss Bernice Cox, librarian of Merigold High School will be a member of the staff for the summer quarter.

Miss Mabel Brister will attend Appalachian State Teacher's College, Boone, N. C., July 18-August 19, to complete work on a manual of suggestions for supervisors of critic teachers and student teachers in the field of library science. She will also participate in a workshop in Supervision of Student Teaching and in Audio-Visual Materials.

Mississippi State College

The third edition of *The Classified List of Reference Books and Periodicals for College Libraries* was published in May by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. This book was compiled by the following librarians:

Editor

W. Stanley Hoole, University of Alabama

Advisory Committee

Gilbert Govan, University of Chattanooga

Guy R. Lyle, Emory University
Louis Shores, Florida State University

Reference Committee

Donald E. Thompson, Chairman, Mississippi State College

Hazel Baity, Meridith College

Joe W. Kraus, Madison College

Vivien M. Lawson, University of Alabama

Periodicals Committee

Edna H. Byers, Chairman, Agnes Scott College

J. Isaac Copeland, George Peabody College

Herbert Hucks, Jr., Wofford College

Roberta Moss, University of Alabama

The Graduate School and the Library of Mississippi State College are working on a cooperative project of editing and publishing abstracts of theses. Abstracts for 1953-54 are now being printed and those for 1951-1952 are being edited. Both volumes will be available for distribution during the summer. Abstracts for earlier years will be edited and published as time and funds permit. All volumes will be issued in the library publication series.

On April 15-16 the Library of the Oak Ridge Institute for Nuclear Studies sponsored a meeting of the libraries of the 32 southern colleges and universities which support the Institute. The purposes of the meeting were to work out a closed relationship between the libraries and to seek further methods of cooperation. Donald Thompson represented Mississippi State College.

Tougaloo College

A record player with ear-phone attachments has been installed near the cabinet containing the collection of recordings, so that students may listen at any time during library hours. This facility is particularly useful to students in Music appreciation, English and Modern language courses.

Dr. E. Borinski of the Social Science Department was the speaker at the annual reception for honor students in each department offering a major. His talk emphasized the joy of owning and reading books, and each honoree was presented with ten books in the pocket and mentor editions as a contribution to a personal library.

Mississippi Southern College

Dr. W. D. McCain, former Head of the State Department of Archives and History at Jackson, Mississippi, has been elected president of Mississippi Southern College.

Miss Martha Ann Dukes, graduate of Mississippi Southern ('55) and a major in library science, has been added to the library staff of the Joe Cook Memorial Library, as an assistant in the circulation department.

On June 11 Miss Anna M. Roberts, accompanied by Miss Willery Jackson, Mrs. G. L. Hawkins, Jr., and Mrs. G. C. Hawkins, sailed on the *Liberte* for a three-months tour of Europe. They plan to visit England, Wales, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, and France.

Mrs. Mary Jo Magee, assistant librarian, will be acting-librarian in the absence of Miss Roberts.

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University of Mississippi

The 1954-55 Library Staff Association programs, which were concluded at the May meeting, have been conducted by the various departments. Each department explained its services and duties and gave interesting information about past experiences, all of which promoted better understanding and cooperation between departments. Mildred Davis, Stella Samuels, Annie Elizabeth Mills, and Ruth Goforth served as members of the program committee. Officers for the year were: Hallie Eggleston, Chairman; Louise Thompson, Vice-Chairman; Mary Jo Austin, Secretary; Alice Collins, Treasurer; and Bernice Johnson, Member-at-Large.

Recent visitors to the Mississippi Room were: Louis Cochran, who autographed his books; Frances O'Brien, a graduate student from New York University, who is doing research on Faulkner; Ollie Beth Martin, librarian at the University of Oklahoma; John B. Stratton, librarian at Oklahoma A. & M.; and Lurra G. Currier of the Mississippi Library Commission.

Several groups have visited the Mississippi Room for lecture tours: students from Petal High School, Petal Mississippi; students from Northeast Junior College, Booneville, Mississippi; Lafayette County Demonstration Club; and Business and Professional Women's Club, Oxford, Mississippi.

During the past year, the valuable collection of books presented by the David Reese Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution has been cataloged. In April, Alice R. Collins, Catalogue librarian, made a talk to the local chapter about this unusual collection which consists of geneological records, historical periodicals, and the published works of the national organization.

Two of William Faulkner's novels in Italian translation were added to the Mississippi Collection of the University Library as gifts from H. Richard Archer of Chicago, Ill. Although the Library has Faulkner translations in French, German, Spanish, and Japanese, the Archer gifts are the first Italian translations acquired by the Library.

Popular displays in the Mississippi Room included one made up of the works of Tennessee Williams (with the Caedmon record of selections from his writings read by the author), and another of books which brought literary honors and awards to Mississippi authors, 1945-1955 (based on a list compiled by the Reference Department).

In order to acquaint the public with the wide variety of materials to be found in the Documents Collection, the Documents Department has presented in the first level corridor a series of displays in which sample copies of pamphlets and books have been used. Early displays featured the Agriculture Department and the Commerce Department; in keeping with the recent Armed Forces Week, a few of the Defense Department materials now make up the display.

Specimen pieces of the Thomas Percy Howard, Jr., Collection of American Indian Artifacts form a display in the west corridor of the University Library. The collection, consisting largely of arrow and spear points, was gathered near Walls, Mississippi and was presented to the University by Mr. Howard's family. The display was arranged by Dr. Robert L. Rands of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

Mrs. Dorothea Morse, Professor of Library Science, Alice R. Collins, Cataloger, and Bernice Johnson, Periodicals Librarian, attended the National Library Bindery Institute in Memphis, May 5.

Irene Graham, librarian of the Rowland Medical Library, attended the annual convention of Medical Librarians held May 17-20 at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Alice R. Collins, catalogue librarian, has been elected president of the Oxford-University Branch of the A.A.U.W. for the following year. Hallie Eggleston, circulation librarian, will serve as secretary.

At the March meeting of A.A.U.W., Jacqueline Schnur, of the Reference Dept., discussed the novels of Ignazio Silone. At the February meeting of the Book Review Group, a study section of A.A.U.W., she read a paper: "Race Relations as Presented in the Works of Hodding Carter, David Cohn, and Richard Wright."

The resignation of Mattie Ragland, typist in the Cataloging Department, became effective May 28. Her husband, a major in Chemical Engineering, has a position in Magnolia, Arkansas with the Carter Oil Company.

On May 8, Norma Fay Beeman, Junior Librarian in the Cataloging Department, and Rosser Wall, both of Newton, Mississippi, were married in a beautiful ceremony in the Baptist Church. Susan Hamilton Smith, formerly a member of the department, was Matron of Honor.

Mrs. Calvin S. Brown, Oxford, Mississippi, has given to the University Library the manuscript of her book, *The University Greys*.

A number of Confederate documents have been added to the University Library's collection.

The Library of the University of Mississippi has received from Mr. Johl Leveck of Benoit, Mississippi, more than a hundred volumes of standard classic titles in the German language. Dr. William Strickland of the University's Department of Modern Languages has presented to the Library 75 medieval French classic texts.

While in Washington recently, Dr. William Willis, Chairman of the Department of Classics, and Mr. J. Sykes Hartin, Director of Libraries, visited with the librarian of the Library of Congress.

Library Science students of the University of Mississippi visited 3 libraries in Memphis: the reference center at the Old Cossitt Library, the new central Library, and the Highland Branch Library, and 4 libraries in Jackson: Mississippi Library Commission, Department of Archives and History, the Jackson Public Library and West Jackson Branch Library. These visits followed a course in field work in the University Library where students worked in all departments of the library. The students met former library science majors from the University of Mississippi at Memphis and Jackson Libraries: Miss Mary Virginia Ashmore, now at the Memphis Public Library, and Mrs. Miriam Meeks, now at the West Jackson Branch Library.

Mississippi State College for Women

Miss Virginia C. Robinson and Miss Beulah Culbertson attended the Southern Literary Festival, Cleveland, Miss., April 22. Mr. Cecil Scott, senior editor of Macmillan emphasized that we are in a period when great authors have given their best and new ones have not quite arrived at prominence. He stated that he is anxious to have a first look at first novels. Short stories are also in demand as collections are selling well now. As a result of his remarks four budding authors from the Columbus vicinity are sending in their manuscripts.

The Mississippi Poetry Society will meet at M.S.C.W. next March. This summer the Society is publishing another anthology containing the works of members. Would-be members are invited to send two or three poems to Mrs. Katherine Bellamann, President, 745 South Prentiss St., Jackson. If the poems are accepted by the Membership Committee, the author may become a member by paying \$3.00 dues.

The Library has exhibited unusually fine French travel posters secured from the French Government Tourist Office, 305 International Trade Mart, New Orleans 12. Other poster sources are: Netherlands National Tourist Office, 270 Park Ave., N. Y. 17, and South African Tourist Corporation, 475 Fifth Ave., N. Y. 17.

Manuscript letters in the handwriting of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Vachel Lindsay have been presented to the library by Professor Lawrence G. Painter, former head of the English Department. A letter from Henry Timrod, poet-laureate of the Confederacy, dated September 7, 1858, is a gift from Mrs. F. F. Covington of Columbus.

There are 15 Library Science graduates this June.

Miss Mary Ann Helms, Library Science Major, has been granted a Fulbright Scholarship and will study French literature at Lyon University, Lyon, France.

Other positions accepted by 1955 Library Science graduates: Miss Ruby Earline Brister, assistant librarian, William Alexander Percy Memorial Library, Greenville, Mississippi; Miss Patti Carr, junior cataloger at the University of Mississippi; Mrs. Jacqueline Walker Hines, children's librarian, Meridian Public Library; Miss Sally Ann McLeod, assistant librarian, Jackson Municipal Library; Miss Jacqueline Tiley, assistant cataloger, Lawson-McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tenn.; Miss Rebekah Anne Trantum, assistant, Readers' Service Dept., Lawson-McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tenn.; Miss Mary Jane Weaver, children's librarian, Fisk Public Library, Natchez.

Graduates choosing positions other than library science are: Miss Diane Decell, to become Mrs. George Young, San Diego, California; Miss Carol Fox, Computer, Aerodynamics Dept., McDonnell Aircraft Corp., St. Louis; Miss Frances Louise Kea, Hostess, American Airline School, St. Louis; Miss Virginia Veitch, Teaching social studies, Jackson, Miss. Public Schools.

The remaining three graduates have not accepted positions at this date: Miss Mabel Claire Davis; Miss Cleo Marie Battle; Miss Mary Virginia Younger.

Mrs. Kenneth Gatchel's class in Public Library Service has made an extensive survey of Lowndes County from the librarian's point of view. The background information for giving standard library service to the county covered economic factors, social, geographic, educational, cultural, recreational, and religious phases, and revealed the present status of library service available to the region.

Lauren Rogers Library and Museum of Art, Laurel

The SPECIAL LIBRARIES section would be in sad plight each report due date if the Lauren Rogers Library didn't come through with their faithful and always interesting record of events. We quote from the letter of Miss Nell Davis, Librarian-Director: "All of our time, thought, and energy during the month of May was concentrated on the special exhibit of the working models of inventions of Leonardo da Vinci, circulated by the Fine Arts Department of International Business Machines. The collection is made up of forty models (most of them pretty good sized) of instruments of warfare, mechanical devices, inventions connected with flight and others utilizing water power. The exhibit was displayed in three rooms, with the flying machine hanging from the skylight at the entrance to the first room. A hydraulic pump was busily pumping water at the back of that room, while a hydraulic water lift was turning merrily in the third room.

"We scheduled as many classes of school children as we possibly could, with extra help from volunteer guides provided by the local literary clubs and the Junior Auxiliary . . . We did the Negro schools as well as the white, and had special hours for Negro adults. Our attendance for the month reached an all time high, exceeding all previous records by more than 1000." Congratulations to Miss Davis.

Base Library, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi

Mrs. Ruth D. Scharr, Base Librarian, has this gratifying bit of news from there: "The Keesler libraries are humming with activity, endeavoring to better their 1954 circulation record of 103,564. This record established Keesler as the outstanding base library in the Air Training Command, a record of which we feel justly proud.

"Keesler has also just won, for the second consecutive year, the John Cotton Dana publicity contest at technical training air force level and a prize of \$100.00. We feel that our stepped-up publicity program is largely responsible for our 32,000 increase in circulation in 1954. As a winner of the publicity contest at this level, Mrs. Scharr has been invited to attend the Air Force Librarians Conference in Washington, D. C. June 29-July 1, 1955."

Research Center Library Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg

Marie Spivey, Assistant Librarian; Mary Ann Welsh, Reference Librarian; Mrs. Estelle Sigler, Circulation Librarian; and Mrs. Nathan Levy, Jr., Cataloger, attended the meeting of the Special Libraries Association, Louisiana Chapter, held in Baton Rouge on May 21.

NOW . . .***Free Pick-up Service******To ALL Mississippi*****WRITE TODAY FOR COMPLETE DETAILS****SOUTHERN LIBRARY BINDERY CO.****228 Woodland Street****Nashville 6, Tennessee**

Department of Archives and History, State of Mississippi, Jackson

The records in this department have proved of great use to lawyers in court cases over the years. The most recent one, in which lawyers for both sides used our census records, was the law suit over the Sim Burnside estate.

Oftentimes, persons involved in damage suits resulting from accidents, come in to secure newspaper reports and pictures of the accident.

An attorney from the U. S. Department of Justice was a recent visitor, seeking information in regard to the Mississippi Choctaw Indian claims against the United States government. The Oklahoma Choctaws claim that the Mississippi Choctaws were given their fair share of the money paid the nation when the provisions of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek were carried out. However, the attorney said, the Oklahoma Choctaws kept no record of this transaction. Old newspapers were searched for a report of the Mississippi Choctaws having been paid off, but no report was found.

University of Mississippi Medical School Library, Jackson

Frances L. Moak, Librarian of the Department of Nursing, attended the biennial convention of the National League of Nursing in St. Louis May 1-6, and participated in the KNOW HOW-KNOW WHY clinic of the Committee on Careers in Nursing. While in St. Louis, Frances visited the nursing school libraries at St. Louis University and Washington University.

Veterans Administration Center Li- brary, Jackson

Mrs. Martha S. Howard reports that Hospital Day was celebrated on May 11. Various reading devices for the handicapped, as well as other equipment, was on display. A number of visitors were on hand for the celebration.

Department of Public Welfare Library A WORD FOR WELFARE WORKERS

Has this happened to you?

You make a request from your Current Reading List to your local library or to the Library Commission. The librarian searches the card catalog, the Cumulative Book Index, and assorted other library tools and gives you the report: "Sorry, but we do not have it, and there doesn't seem to be such a book in print." But it's on the Current Reading List!

If you have had this experience, then these words are for you:

The Current Reading List sent out by the Welfare Department consists of new books, magazine articles and book reviews. Perhaps you requested a magazine article by author and title without indicating that it was a magazine article and not a book. Or perhaps in asking for a book review, you requested only the author and title of the book and failed to say what magazine the review appeared in.

It will help librarians to give you a better service if you make your requests specific. If you ask for a magazine article or a book review, be sure to give the *name and date* of the magazine in which it can be found.

The Library Commission and the public libraries of the state are eager to give the best service possible—and we believe that we can if you will help us know what we are looking for.

HAVE YOU JOINED UP? or, News About Dues

Mississippi Library Association
individual dues \$1.00; send to Miss Sybil Hanna, Jackson Municipal Library, Jackson, Miss.

American Library Association
dues pro-rated according to salary; send to American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago 11, Illinois

Southeastern Library Association
dues for individuals \$2.00; send to Georgia School of Technology Library, Atlanta

Adult Education Association of the USA
individual dues (for some purposes) \$5; send to 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

".. YOUR VOTE AND INFLUENCE .."

Everybody's campaigning this summer. Are we?

But we're not running for anything, someone says. O, yes, we are. Libraries are always running. County and state officials campaign once every four years; the library has to campaign all of the time.

The library is in politics. (If it isn't, it had better be!) Take for instance this story of the librarian—or the clerical worker, or bookmobile driver, or who-else—with the book in her hand. Mind you, not the one back in the director's office with the pencil in her hand but out in the "field" with the book in her hand. A candidate for reelection as a supervisor walked into a public library in south Mississippi last week (we have a mind to call names in this case just as a tribute to that hard-working, alive, alert library staff) and said:

"As I go about my district making my race for reelection all the people are telling me about the fine, accommodating workers that ride the bookmobile and how much it means to them. I just want to pass that word on to you. It's a wonderful service."

Then, there's the group of supervisors who pass out cards with this written on the very top line: "I support the county library." Planks in a platform. "You're the only people who ever campaigned in this county," said one official, speaking of the regional library staff, "who did what you said you were going to do." Living up to a platform.

This summer is our opportunity. Literally hundreds of men and women will be asking us for one of our most sacred possessions—our vote. They are seeking our confidence and trust, our faith in their integrity. That is as it should be. That's the essence of democracy. Then, we can ask them for something, too.

Do we really believe in books and libraries? Do we actually have a deep conviction that books have the power to influence men's lives for good? Deep enough to ask for support to buy books and get them to people? When a candidate approaches you, talk with him

about libraries. Speak to him of your concrete plans and hopes; not just a meek little "Now, Mr. So-and-So, we want you to be for the library." Of course, he's for the library. Who in the world isn't? But being for it and being willing to support it is not quite the same—by some 2 million dollars, roughly speaking. Work out a schedule of development for your library; present him a specific program. Do you want a bookmobile? a new building? a better staff? a better salary for yourself? Just tell the candidate that. It need not embarrass you. He's probably thinking himself of income, or some such practical consideration. He knows what things cost—some things, anyway. He doesn't mind asking you; you need not mind asking him.

Just a minute. Here comes a candidate now. Pardon me. He's running for the Legislature, I must stop this and tell him that there are 1,281,951 people living in Mississippi without any public library service of any kind and that that shocking figure includes everybody who lives in his county.

"... your vote and influence will be appreciated."

CROWDED HOURS

- July 18-19—First visit of MLC Bookmobile to Indian Schools, Choctaw Reservation
- July 25-28—Farm and Home Week, State College
- July 25-29—Mississippi Southern College Library Workshop
- August 8-13—Louisiana Workshop for Negro librarians, Baton Rouge, Mississippi welcome!
- August 30—Governor's Safety Conference, Jackson
- October 20—Statewide Workshop for public librarians, Biloxi
- October 20, 21, 22—Mississippi Library Association Meeting, Biloxi

021.4 *American Heritage Project* or 374.24

MISSISSIPPI VERSION

by Mrs. C. C. Clark

At Allerton Park, Illinois, a fantastic estate given to the University of Illinois in 1941, all American Heritage directors and supervisors from over the United States met with the National AH Staff for five days in May. Mrs. Lura Currier and Mrs. C. C. Clark from the Mississippi Library Commission attended this conference. The purpose was "to provide opportunity for area supervisors and directors to discuss needs, information and ideas." Through the media of general group discussions, small group meetings, and personal conferences with staff members, the supervisors and directors considered, (1) the AH project and its benefits to communities and libraries, opportunities that have been missed, and unfortunate results, (2) programming, leadership training and expanded adult education programs, (3) materials—books, pamphlets and films. The following article asks for a response from all AH librarians and from others who are concerned about expanded adult education services.

WE'VE BEEN WORKING

(Tune: We've been working on the Railroad)

"We've been working on the Project
Morning, noon and night,
Now it seems as if that Project
Is in a sorry plight.

All foundations grants have ended
No more are in view.

How're we goin' to train the leaders
WE ARE ASKING YOU."

—Produced at Allerton Park

"We are asking you" was the theme question put to the National AH staff by area supervisors and directors at the Allerton Park Conference. Like all good AH leaders the staff led the group through discussion to some answers.

The new Library-Community Project has been organized by A.L.A. under a grant of \$200,000 from the Fund For Adult Education for a two-year period. It will begin operation on Sept. 1, 1955 and terminate August 31, 1957. The new Project will have three aspects:

1. Continued but limited assistance to AH projects in those grant areas in the first and second year.
2. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULTANT SERVICE FROM THE PROJECT OFFICE OF A.L.A. TO BE REQUESTED BY THE STATE AGENCY FOR LOCAL LIBRARIES, GROUPS OF LIBRARIES OR STATE-WIDE PROGRAMS.
3. Selection of four states as grant areas for two years for the development of local and state-wide adult education programs.

A Request

Obviously opportunity for Mississippi libraries is to be found in aspect No. 2. What kind of services do we want; what are our greatest needs; are they in the area of leadership training, programming and program clinics; coordinating community adult education information; discussion and program materials; public relation techniques aimed toward better service to adult groups—civic, religious, industrial and business?

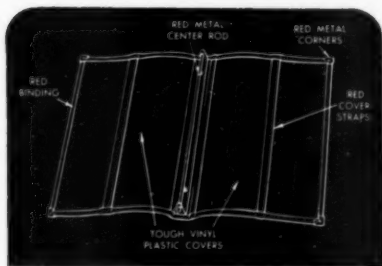
The Library Commission can request any of these services for an individual library or any group of libraries if needs and desires are known. The sooner the requests are made the more likely they are to be granted.

A Need

The need expressed more often by all area people was for better ways of working with people and groups. Too long from the standpoint of adult education as well as good public relations, has the profession spent its valuable time "talking to itself." The time has arrived, or has it, to bring the "outsiders" into the picture. Is it too revolutionary to dream of the time when the M.L.A. for example, would bring into its annual meeting those who are doing adult education through other agencies and organizations, for a three-session workshop on better methods and techniques for community programs and better use of reading materials and the public library?

The Library Commission could ask for leadership from A.L.A. for just such a workshop for the 1956 Annual meeting.

The Public Library in Mississippi needs to take advantage in a variety of ways of the services offered by the new A.L.A. Library-Community Project. The time is short, just two years, but the way is open. The Library Commission needs only to know what types of activities are needed, are wanted and workable at the local library community level.



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Two films, "Public Opinion in Our Democracy" and "Developing Your Character" have been purchased by the Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers. The films may be secured by directing your request to: MR. W. D. R. STOVALL, STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, JACKSON.

GOVERNOR'S SAFETY CONFERENCE

August 30 is the date for the statewide Governor's Safety Conference. It will be held at the Heidelberg Hotel in Jackson. The Library Commission is one of the sponsoring agencies for this statewide meeting, along with the Mississippi Manufacturers' Association, the Farm Bureau, the P. T. A., State College, and the Mississippi Highway Patrol.

Featured speaker for the occasion will be Mr. G. C. Stewart, General Manager, National Safety Council. The small group conference technique, so familiar to librarians, will be employed. Plans are underway for the Commission to furnish exhibit materials for local libraries, as well as to finance attendance of librarians at the conference through the library-industry project.

Local newspapers throughout the state will carry more details of the meeting.

BOOKS FOR PEOPLE WITHOUT BOOKS

or, The Library Services Act

Hearings (in Washington)

On May 25, 26 and 27 hearings were held by the Special Subcommittee of the House Education and Labor Committee. A record of 12 hours of testimony was accumulated. This material will be available in document form in about a month.

Mississippi's Congressman Frank Smith testified in behalf of the bill. ALA's chief testimony was given by John Richards, president-elect. In his formal statement Mr. Richards spoke of the need for this legislation and its importance as a five-year stimulation grant that would create citizen interest sufficient to continue the program at the end of that period.

The Commissioner of Education, Dr. Samuel M. Brownell, presented the Administration's position on the bill, and as was suspected, it was one of opposition.

Meditations (in Mississippi)

Shall we have a hearing here, in the columns of MLN, on the Library Services Act? Ladies and gentlemen, your questions please.

How much money will the passage of this bill mean in Mississippi?

\$193,950 per year for each of five successive years.

In order to get that much, what will the state have to put up to match it?

\$99,914 per year for five successive years.

How does that compare with what the last session of the Legislature appropriated to the Mississippi Library Commission for Library Extension?

The biennial appropriation for 1954-1956 for Library Extension was \$109,650 (\$54,875 per year) This amount is in addition to the sum appropriated for Library Commission Support, which was \$81,525 for the two year period.

Who will administer the money in Mississippi?

Quote from the law: "... to be approved ... a state plan for the further extension of public library services to rural areas must provide for the administration of the plan by the state library administrative agency ... the determination of whether library services are inadequate in any area of the state shall be made by the state library administrative agency of such state.

What agency in Mississippi would be called the "state library administrative agency?"

Again from the wording of the bill: "The term 'state library administrative agency' means the official State agency charged by law with the extension and development of public library services throughout the state." This is in our case the Mississippi Library Commission.

What does the bill define as rural areas?

"The term 'rural area' does not include an incorporated or unincorporated town having a population of more than ten thousand persons.

What is the population of Mississippi?
2,178,914

How many of these live in areas over ten thousand?

Only 419,889

Does that mean that the rest of Mississippi's population would be eligible for library service under the definitions set down in this Library Services Act?

That is right. There are 1,218,951 people in our state without public library service of any kind. Of this number, 1,180,663 live in areas regarded by this bill as rural.

What effects will the provisions of this bill have on the social customs of our state?

The bill clearly states: "... that any library services furnished under this plan shall be made available free of charge under regulations prescribed by the State library administrative agency."

LIBRARIES OR LIMOUSINES— IT'S MUTUAL

By Lura Currier

"This is mutual."

The radio announcer says it frequently. Librarians and industrialists seem to say it more and more frequently, too. To each other.

Not long ago one of Mississippi's "men in industry" was talking with an Alabama executive in which conversation he described the association between the libraries and the manufacturers in the state. The Alabama man said, in shocked surprise: "The LIBRARY? Of all things!"

Yes, the library of all things! What do librarians and industrialists have in common? Recent conferences have revealed many, many things. (Some of them surprised the librarians almost as much as our neighbor was surprised to find "The library—of all things.")

The Distribution Clinic

Goods to the consumer. That's industry's main problem. How different is that from the library's main problem?

The six librarians who attended the Distribution Clinic held early in May at the Continuation Center on the University campus discovered that there was little difference in the knowledge, the skills, and basic techniques of selling books and reading and those employed in selling—well, cars, T-V sets, dress goods, IBM machines, roofing, flooring.

While he denied all knowledge of having done so, Roger M. Burg, Director of Sales Promotion, IBM Corporation, made one of the best speeches on adult education the librarians had ever heard. He's on our side when a speaker makes such statements as: "A better educated man is a more productive one." "The first six months a man works for us he spends more time with books than he does with our product." "There's no saturation point in education."

Howard W. Allen, vice-president of Johns-Manville Corporation, gave the audience something to ruminate over when he defined public relations as "the exercising of statesmanship in our business." Could Mr. Allen's comment

about a corporation be applicable to a library? "A corporation is just like any other person, except that it has no pants to kick or soul to damn and it ought to have both." He added: "If the public is not aware of our policies and of our objectives—then we have no soul, either to be damned or to be praised." One wonders, in connection with this, where libraries that are just being ignored might come in.

The skills and techniques required in adjusting a whole corporation to meet something entirely new was presented graphically by James Herbert, general sales manager of Motorola Corporation. After his presentation of how things had to change overnight when T-V came in, some of the librarians asked themselves: "How many of us are mentally prepared to shift gears that fast?" Some were thinking of changes we've been afraid to make—changes long overdue to fit our program into the times.

Dr. Hicks, chairman of the Department of Economics and Business Administration, painted a cheerful picture of business conditions. (What about that in relation to the possibility of asking for more money for libraries?)

Manie Berry, Raymond, Augusta Richardson, Corinth, Elizabeth Holcombe, Tupelo, Ida Bullen, West Point, Leila B. Clark and Lura Currier, Jackson—the six librarians who attended the clinic—all know now why Hugh Comer, chairman of the Board of Avondale Mills, Sylacauga, Alabama, is one of the country's most popular speakers. These six members of his audience made mental note to get him for a library conference speaker some time. Combining informal delivery with stage gymnastics and hard-hitting basic truths, he drove home a point applicable to anyone selling services, goods or ideas: "There's not been a sale until the product is in the hands of the final consumer." Such a statement jerks up those of us who of necessity deal with library service once, or more, removed from the consumer. It gives us pause to stop and ask: "At the point of direct consumer contact, what caliber of service do we have?"

(Continued on next page)

MMA Speakers' Bureau

People are always looking for speakers.

Well, now, that sounds familiar to librarians. Mississippi Manufacturers' Association has felt the same need that librarians have—for a Speakers' Bureau, a clearing house for program sources. Charles H. Fulghum, Program Director of MMA, in circularizing the librarians of the state about the Speakers' Bureau made a poignant summary of the philosophy of cooperation among libraries in this excellent statement:

"... every time you perform a service to some group in your community you enhance your position and the position of all libraries in Mississippi as a service organization for the people of the state."

What subjects will the speakers cover? A wide variety including Safety, Labor Relations, Forestry, Quality Control, Traffic and Transit, Finance, Insurance, Sales and Industrial Opportunities in Mississippi.

Who will be available as speakers? Men who are leaders in Mississippi industry, who live and work here.

What will the charges be? Usually, none at all. "While we can't say definitely that 100 per cent of the time there will be no charges," says Fulghum, "we do say that most company policy is to send their men at company expense to give organizations such services."

Looking for a speaker? One of your clubs desperate for a program? Jointly, the library and the MMA can fill the gap.

A NON-LIBRARIAN LOOKS AT LIBRARIES

By Mrs. C. C. Clark

Like the pussy cat who went to London to see the queen and ended up doing the thing she was most adept at—frightening a mouse—we went "A-Library-Touring" to see libraries and ended up observing at our own level of interest and knowledge, which was not the queen, (that is, the technical and professional aspects of libraries), but the communities and the people in them.

What impact is the library making on the life of the community? Is anything important happening to people because the library is there? What standing does the library have in the community as compared with other services? These are some of the standards by which libraries are measured. Unlike the pussy cat, we did not frighten anything or anybody—but rather got frightened.

We were frightened in many instances for the physical welfare of the overworked librarian. Energetic, enthusiastic and imaginative far beyond physical endurance were those who saw more things to be done than could possibly be done with present staff and budget. We came away from these particular libraries with an abiding respect for the dedication of these people, and furthermore, with a keen sense of humility.

Strange to say, we were frightened in some cases at books. Shelves, packed down and spilling out, frightened us when compared with the total area of the library. To us, a book is not a precious thing. It has no value until it and a reader get together. In other cases, there was nothing frightening that a good "house cleaning" would not cure. One thing we have learned from association with the profession is that destroying some books is not a subversive act.

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In still other instances, the full shelves indicate neither poor circulation nor poor collections, but rather a woe-ful lack of housing space.

That the library is a legitimate community service, deserving tax support as do other community functions, is not a theory held by all people! We had an urge to take the soap box in these cases and tell the world that libraries should not have to be objects of charity, while other community agencies live in luxury; should not have to live on the hand-outs of the town fathers, nor be the dumping ground for those of us who clean out the attic occasionally. The library is a vital, living, and growing thing, not the final resting place for books.

The receptive attitude of librarians and board members as a whole gave us a sense of awe. The challenge to meet expressed needs is a frightening thing, because it is one that we dare not let go unheeded, and yet it is one of such tremendous proportions.

The solution to many problems facing public libraries, as we saw it, lies in the area of education. We are not thinking here of more professionally trained librarians, even though this is a great need in our state, but primarily of educating the public about libraries, their function and services; and of educating librarians and board members to the necessity of coming out of the library building into the active life of the community. We were happy to observe that for every librarian who conceived of his job as "handing out" books to those who came to the library for them, there were scores who were keenly aware of the broader aspect of service.

What specific form this education of the public must take constitutes another frightening aspect of our problem. Whether to "tell" people what good library service could be if financial support were adequate, or whether to demonstrate good library service as an impetus for better support, is a vicious circle faced by many librarians. We take the position that the demonstration must be made.

A frightening situation which occurred more than once may be summarized by quoting: "Why, the Mayor nor any member of the Board of Supervisors

has ever been in our library." In many communities, people prominent in business, professions, and city government, not only had not been in the library for years; but what is still more frightening, it had not occurred to them to include the library as a resource for help with their problems. On rare occasions, when one did seek help from the library, he typified many who were astonished at the subject matter, facilities and services provided by the library, which they had regarded only as meeting the recreational reading needs of women and children. To provide such help, and to make the community aware of them, is the specific job of librarians and boards.

The library needs to see the community as made up first of people; and secondly, of people in groups. It must know the needs of these people as individuals and as individuals organized in groups. It is necessary to become familiar with the program areas of organized groups. And we are bold enough to say that the library leadership must be aggressive enough to make an approach to these groups and make them aware that the library has something they need. For example, for the next three years the program and study group emphasis of the P.T.A. will be centered around mental health and all its ramifications. The joint planning with this organization and other community groups is not only essential to the sound development of library service, but also essential to the effectiveness of the organization's program. No intelligent solution to problems can be made without facts and information for discussion and deliberation. The public library should be the community information center; and, furthermore, every individual in the community should be made aware of that.

Frightening or not, we can say with sincerity that we saw more things while "A-Touring-Libraries" to make us glad than to make us sad. We saw excellent community-library cooperation and relations. We saw so much being done with so little. We saw potential areas of improvement that stimulate us to increased effort. We are strong in the belief that the golden age of the public library in Mississippi is now. All we need is patience, devotion and intelligent working together to realize it.

A CRAZE, A HOBBY—IS THIS ADULT EDUCATION?

By Eunice Eley

Adult Education! What is the meaning of these words we hear so often now? Is it some new fad? Webster says a fad is a "custom . . . followed for a time with exaggerated zeal, a craze, a hobby, a whim." The phrase Adult Education may arouse in some a feeling of wonder as to what it is, in others indifference, and in some resentment that education must always be taking on some new responsibility. But it is not a fad and it is new only in the sense that there is an increased need today. With an increasingly aging population and with an awakened sense of public responsibility for meeting the demands of this new age, the practical need for educating the whole population cannot be considered a fad, but must be accepted as a necessity. Continued learning must more and more be considered a public and personal responsibility.

It is the acceptance of this responsibility that has brought about such organizations as The Southeastern Adult Education Association which held its annual meeting April 17-19, 1955, in Miami, Florida.

This was an excellent conference with a fine program which was well planned and executed with good timing and balance. Dr. Nicholas P. Mitchell, who is editor of the Greenville News, Greenville, South Carolina, and president of the Association, moved things along with ease and just enough speed. Those engaged in formal education programs were probably in the majority in attendance—mostly college and university people, but there were some from agricultural extension agencies, some few from industry, and librarians from Virginia, North Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida. Dr. Paul Es-sert, president, and several other representatives of the national office were present.

At the general session Monday morning Dr. Andrew Hendrickson, Ohio State University, and representative of the American Adult Education Association, said in an address: "The South is the backbone of the Adult Education Movement. In the South there is a ferment of interest and activity." He also said that the national office finds it difficult to work with a state that has no organized state association, mentioning Mississippi as such a state but said, "they are working toward an organization." (Several attempts have been made but no organization formed.)

There was a symposium having as speakers the State Superintendent of Education, three professors, Florida's Attorney General and a Florida editor. The subject was "Facing Current Issues," and most of the discussion was on the school situation and the Supreme Court Decision. The attitudes of the Attorney General and the Editor, though all echoed somewhat the same idea, was that there is no question as to whether or not schools will be integrated. It is a court ruling and will be carried out. It is not now a legal question but a judicial one. The only question now is one of method. The conclusion was that the great responsibility today is education for new attitudes for a new age. Questions from the floor brought on lively discussion.

The subject of federal aid to education was discussed and Dr. Berry, University of Miami, stressed the fact that federal aid is not new, naming such aid to Land Grant Colleges, G. I. Bill etc. He said the only new idea is federal aid to elementary education. He showed that the mobility of the population makes federal aid necessary, particularly for the south which cannot educate its population. Monday evening Dr. Coolie Verner, Florida State University, spoke on "Creating a Free Society." This was followed by group discussions on various interests.

Dr. Mitchell made a most inspiring address at the first session on Sunday evening, speaking of the progress made by the organization and of the future filled with unlimited opportunity, as well as hard work. He gave a forecast of some of the problems facing adult education and the Association because of the rapidly increasing industrial growth of the area, but said the organization is off to a good start and has demonstrated its determination to go forward.

On Tuesday morning Dr. Gordon W. Blackwell, of the Institute for Research in Social Science, University of North Carolina, spoke on "The Changing South," stressing the problem of urbanization and the need to cultivate in our future citizens, "those spiritual, moral and intellectual values which can make and keep a people great in an urbanized-industrialized culture."

At the business meeting a constitution was adopted and the following officers were elected: President, James L. Burnstead, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Vice-President, Dr. Lucy Morgan, Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Secretary-Treasurer, J. Eugene Weldon, Athens, Georgia. The 1956 conference is to be at Clemson College, Clemson, South Carolina.

The Mississippi representatives attending the meeting were Miss Earle Gaddis and Mrs. Margaret Cresswell, representing agricultural extension and Mrs. Eunice Eley, from the Mississippi Library Commission. In addition to the inspiring and informative program the trip provided for the Mississippi delegation an opportunity to see much of Miami and Miami Beach through the courtesy of Miss Gaddis' Home Demonstration Agent friend who spent Sunday afternoon as a personal guide in her car, showing the beauties of the city which she knew well and enjoyed showing; also a visit to the beautiful Villa Viscaya, the former Deering home; for Miss Gaddis and Mrs. Cresswell a round-trip air flight to Miami and for Mrs. Eley a motor trip through Florida, down the Gulf coast and back up the Atlantic Coast, then by plane to Havana and to Nassau before returning to Jackson.

The Children's Choice: It Could Happen Here

When Ruth Gagliardo, Director of Traveling Exhibits for the Kansas State Teachers' Association, was in Mississippi she talked about the William Allen White Award for outstanding childrens books.

Why, she suggested, couldn't it happen here—a Mississippi or regional version of the award?

The award is made on the basis of the voting of school children—the children's choice.

The 1955 William Allen White Award was given to Jean Bailey, Librarian of the Pratt Junior College, Pratt, Kansas, for her *Cherokee Bill*. More than 27,000 Kansas school children voted it their favorite from a selected list of 18 books.

American Education Week

Information on American Education Week, November 6-12, 1955, its theme, daily topics, planned suggestions, and available materials, may be obtained by writing to: Ivan A. Booker, Assistant Director, Division of Press and Radio Relations, National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6. D. C.

Oklahoma's New Library Law

Hard work and close cooperation among members of the Oklahoma Library Association netted them a new multi-county library law, just passed by their legislature and signed into law by Governor Gary. Local librarians will be interested to know that this piece of legislation was patterned largely after Mississippi's regional library act, embodying its best features. Of particular interest to the Sooners working for library development were two provisions of Mississippi law: first, the broad contractual provisions whereby counties may join together to create a library "under terms of a contract to which all of them agree;" second, the complete local autonomy that Mississippi's regional libraries have under their law.

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